

The Charlotte Journal.

"Perpetual Vigilance is the Price of Liberty," for "Power is always Stealing from the Many to the Few."

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
VOLUME XX.

From the North Carolina Standard.
Sketches of the North Carolina Press.

NO. 2.
"Messenger of grief,
Perhaps to thousands, and joy to some;
This folio of four pages, happy work!
Which not even critics criticize, that holds in-
quire attention.
What is it, but a map of busy life,
Its fluctuations and its vast concerns?"

COPIES.
In the first number on this subject, published some short time since, the history of the Press was collated from its discovery in the 15th century, down to our Revolution. The Press of our own State, from its first introduction into the Province in 1749, by James Davis, and the names and characters of the different Editors, were stated.

From that period to the present much information is collected, yet much is needed to make its history complete and satisfactory.

The ruling powers of England seemed, says Williamson, in his History of North Carolina, vol. 1, p. 165, to have regarded knowledge as a dangerous plant in the Province, else they would not have instructed Lord Effingham, the Governor of Virginia, "not to suffer the use of a Printing Press on any occasion whatever." It was a cause of gratitude, for which Sir William Berkeley gave thanks to Heaven, "that there was not a Printing Office in any of the Southern Provinces."

Surely, if such subjects afforded his Lordship any cause of congratulation, the early history of our State must have filled his loyal heart with happiness.

But, under the influence of free government, the Press, during the period which we are now considering, has attained in our Government position and power hitherto unknown in the history of our race.

Typographically, in his Encyclopedia of Literature and Typographical Anecdotes informs us that the United States had in 1834, with a population of 13,000,000, more newspapers than all Europe with a population of 100,000,000!

Such are consequences of Institutions and Laws that realize the idea of Locke's perfection of a Government, where every man may think what he pleases and speak what he thinks.

At the commencement of the Revolution of 1776, the only newspapers in our State, were at Newbern, Wilmington, Halifax, Edenton, and Hillsborough.

In 1812, there were newspapers, printed at Newbern, Wilmington, Edenton, Tarboro, Mufreesborough, Fayetteville, Raleigh, and Warrenton.

It is to be regretted that no files are extant of this period, or within the control of the writer of this sketch, which show "the form and pressure of the times" or the characters of the Editors.

We observe that the Legislature of Wisconsin, at a recent session, has ordered that the County Court Clerks of each County, shall subscribe in the name of the County, for a copy of each paper printed in the County for reference, to be bound up and preserved.

It would be a worthy enactment of our General Assembly; and further, to direct the State Librarian to procure a copy of each paper printed in the State, to be preserved in like manner. Their value would increase with their years, and be a most useful and reliable source of reference.

The Constitution, made at Halifax, in 1776, was printed, as well as the Acts of the Legislature, the first that assembled under the Constitution, by James Davis, at Newbern, in April, 1777.

James Davis was, as stated in a previous number of these Sketches, a Virginian by birth, and was appointed, under the Colonial Government, Post Master at Newbern, by Benjamin Franklin, and also held the commission of a magistrate, from Gov. Tryon—the last but one, of the Royal Governors.

The Private Acts of the General Assembly, from 1715 to 1790, were printed at Newbern, by Francis X. Martin, in 1794.

The life and character of Francois Xavier Martin, is full of interest.

The lesson it teaches is full of encouragement to the industrious, prudent and persevering. He was a Frenchman by birth, as his name indicates, without fortune and friends, but by application and industry rose to the highest ranks of society. In 1791, the Legislature afforded him aid in publishing the statutes of England in force and use in this State. In 1803 he was employed by the same to publish a revival of the acts of the Proprietary, Royal and State Governments. In 1809, he was appointed by Mr.

Madison to a judicial office, first in Mississippi Territory, afterwards Orleans; and when the latter became a State, Louisiana, he was appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of that State, in which office, he recently died, full of years, wealth and honor. In 1829, he published a History of North Carolina in two volumes.

Abraham Hodge, uncle of William Boylan, Esq. of Raleigh, was a contemporary, and was early an extensive printer in the State. Of his life, character and death, the writer is not informed.

The name of Joseph Gales appears in Tyler's Encyclopedia as the publisher of the Sheffield Register No. 1, in England, in June, 1787. He fled to America from the persecutions of tyranny in 1794, and settled in Raleigh, where in 1799, he established the present Raleigh Register, now conducted by his grand son, Seaton Gales, Esq. In 1804, the office of the Register, with all its appliances, was burned to the ground; but by the generous aid of friends with the enterprise of the Editor, it revived, and took an active part for the country, in its perilous contest with England in the war of 1812.

An accurate account of his typographical labours, by a faithful and familiar hand, would fill the period now alluded to, and is most desirable to the country. To those who have the material at hand, and more ability than the writer of this, this duty is confided. By many now alive, he is remembered with pleasure. His life was industrious and full of gentleness, and his talents and his virtues have left behind a character worthy of regard and emulation.

The Newspapers now published in North Carolina, are as follows:

1. Aurora, Wilmington, by Henry I. Toole.
2. Albemarle Bulletin, Edenton, E. C. Manning.
3. Asheville Messenger, Asheville, J. M. Edney.
4. Buncombe Dollar News, Atkin and Sherwood.
5. Biblical Recorder, Raleigh, Thomas Meredith.
6. Common School Advocate, Guilford, N. Men. denhall.
7. Carolina Watchman, Salisbury, Bracer and Jones.
8. Christian Sun, Pittsboro', Cam. Chris. Church.
9. Charlotte Journal, Charlotte, T. J. Holton.
10. Communicator, Fayetteville, William Potter.
11. Daily Mail, Raleigh, W. D. Cooke.
12. Fayetteville Observer, Fayetteville, E. J. Hale.
13. Goldsboro' Patriot, Goldsboro', W. Robinson.
14. Goldsboro' Telegraph, Goldsboro', W. F. S. A. I.
15. Greenville Whig, Oxford, George Warham.
16. Greensboro' Patriot, Greensboro', Swain and Sherwood.
17. Halifax Republican, Halifax, C. N. Webb.
18. Hillsborough Recorder, Dennis Heatt.
19. Hillsborough Democrat, John N. Bunting.
20. Houn's Nest, Charlotte, J. L. Badger.
21. Lincoln Courier, Lincolnton, Thos. J. Keeley.
22. Lincoln Republican, Lincolnton, J. M. Newad.
23. Milton Chronicle, Milton, C. N. B. Evans.
24. Mountain Banner, Rutherfordford, Thomas H. Hayden.
25. North Carolina Standard, Raleigh, W. W. Hel. don.
26. North Carolinian, Fayetteville, Wm. H. Byne.
27. North Carolina Herald, Ashborough, R. H. Brown.
28. North Carolina Farmer, Raleigh, Thos. J. Le. moy.
29. Newbernian, Newbern, Wm. H. Mayhew.
30. Newbern Republican, Newbern, Wm. B. Gulick.
31. North State Whig, Washington, H. Dimmock.
32. Old North Star, Elizabeth City, S. D. Poole.
33. Primitive Baptist, Raleigh, Burwell Temple.
34. Plymouth Times, Plymouth, Wm. Ehora.
35. Raleigh Register, Raleigh, Seaton Gales.
36. Raleigh Star, Raleigh, Thos. J. Lamy & Son.
37. Raleigh Times, Raleigh, C. C. Robateau.
38. Religious Intelligencer, Wilmington, J. M. Daniel.
39. Spirit of the Age, Raleigh, Alex. M. Gorman.
40. Southern Advocate, Raleigh, Burwell Temple.
41. Tarborough Free Press, Tarboro', Geo. How. ard, Jr.
42. Wilmington Chronicle, Wilmington, A. A. Brown.
43. Wilmington Journal, Wilmington, Fulton & Price.
44. Wilmington Commercial, Wilmington, Thos. Loring.
45. Wadesboro' Argus, Wadesboro', Samuel Ful. ton.
46. Weldon Herald, Weldon, Jas. F. Simmons.

It would extend this sketch far beyond its proper length to detail in this number the merits of each paper, or to attempt to sketch the character and pursuit of each of the proprietors. The material has been procured, and will be given in another number, at some future period. This shall be done fairly and justly—"nothing extenuated or ought set down in malice," so that those who come after us shall not be at the same loss, as we are now, of the name, character and talents of those who exercise at this day so important an influence on the public mind and morals.

TACITUS.

CURIOUS EPIGRAPH.

Dickens, in his "Household Words," gives the following as a literal transcript of an inscription on a tombstone in a churchyard in Dorsetshire, viz: "Here lies the body of Lady O'Looney great neice of Burke, commonly called the sublime. She was blaut, passionate and deeply religious; also, she painted in water colors, and sent several pictures to the exhibition. She was first cousin to Lady Jones; and of such is the kingdom of Heaven."

Why does an aching tooth impose silence on the sufferer? Because it makes him hold his jaw.

REMARKS OF MR. WEBSTER,

On the Compromise Bill—In Senate, June 17.

MR. WEBSTER. On the 7th of March, sir, I declared my opinion to be, that there is not a square rod of territory belonging to the United States, the character of which, for slavery or no slavery, is not already fixed by some irrepealable law. I remain of that opinion. The opinion, sir, has been a good deal canvassed in the country, and there have been complaints—sometimes respectful and decorous, and sometimes so loud and so empty as to become mere clamor. But I have heard no argument upon any question of law embraced in that opinion, which shakes the firmness with which I hold it, nor have I heard any discussion upon any matter of fact, as to that part of the opinion which rests on facts, which leads me to doubt the accuracy of my conclusions as to that part of the opinion which regarded the true construction, or I might with more propriety say, almost the literal meaning, of the resolutions by which Texas was admitted into the Union. I have heard no argument calculated, in the slightest degree, to alter that opinion. The committee, I believe, with one accord, concurred in it. A great deal of surprise, real or affected, has been expressed in the country at the announcement by me of that opinion, as if there were something new in it. Yet there need have been no surprise, for there was nothing new in it. Other gentlemen have expressed the same opinion more than once; and I myself, in a speech made here on the 23d day of March, 1848, expressed the same opinion almost in the same words; with which nobody here found any fault—at which nobody here cavilled or made question, and nobody in the country.

With respect to the other ground on which my opinion is founded, that is, the high improbability, in point of fact, that African slavery could be introduced and established in any of the Territories acquired by us in pursuance of the late treaty with Mexico, I have learned nothing, heard nothing, from that day to this, that has not entirely confirmed that opinion. This being my judgment on the matter, I voted very readily and cheerfully to exclude what is called the Wilmot Proviso from these Territorial bills, or to keep it out, rather, when a motion was made to introduce it. I did so, upon a very full and deep conviction that no act of Congress, no provision of law, was necessary in any degree for that purpose; that there were natural and sufficient reasons and causes excluding forever African slavery from those regions. That was my judgment, and I acted, on it; and it is my judgment still. Those who think differently, will, of course, pursue a different line of conduct, in accordance with their own judgments. That was my opinion then, and it has been strengthened by every thing that I have learned since, and I have no more apprehension to-day of the introduction or establishment of African slavery in these Territories, than I have of its introduction into, and establishment in Massachusetts.

Well, sir, I have voted not to place in these Territorial bills what is called the Wilmot Proviso, and by that vote having signified a disposition to exclude the prohibition, as a thing unnecessary, I am now called upon to vote upon this amendment, moved by the honorable member from Louisiana, (Mr. Soule,) which provides that the States formed out of New Mexico and Utah shall have the right and privilege of making their own constitutions to Congress conformably to the Constitution of the United States, with or without a prohibition against slavery, as the people of those Territories, about to become States, may see fit to declare. I have not seen much practical utility in this amendment, I agree. Nevertheless, if I should vote, now that it is presented to me, against it, it might leave me open to suspicion of intending, or wishing to see that accomplished in another way hereafter which I did not choose to see accomplished by the introduction of the Wilmot Proviso. That is to say, it might seem as if, voting against that form of exclusion or prohibition, I might be willing still that there should be a chance hereafter to enforce it in some other way. Now, I think that ingenuousness and steadiness of purpose, under these circumstances, compel me to vote for the amendment, and I shall vote for it. I do it exactly on the same grounds that I voted against the introduction of the proviso. And let it be remembered that I am now speaking of New Mexico and Utah, and other territories acquired from Mexico; and of nothing else. I confine myself to these; and, as to

them, I say that I see no occasion to make a provision against slavery now, or to reserve to ourselves the right of making such provision hereafter. All this rests, on the most thorough conviction, that, under the law of nature, there never can be slavery in these Territories. This is the foundation of all. And I voted against the proviso, and I vote now in favor of this amendment, for the reason that all restrictions are unnecessary, absolutely unnecessary; and as such restrictions give offence, and create a kind of resentment, as they create a degree of dissatisfaction and as I desire to avoid all dissatisfaction as far as I can, by avoiding all measures that cause it, and which are in my judgment wholly unnecessary, I shall vote now as I voted on a former occasion, and shall support the amendment offered by the honorable member from Louisiana. I repeat again, I do it upon the exact grounds upon which I declared upon the 7th day of March, that I should reject the Wilmot Proviso—the precise grounds.

Sir, it does not seem to strike other Senators as it strikes me, but if there be any qualification to that general remark which I made, or the opinion which I expressed on the 7th of March, that every foot of territory of the United States has a fixed character for slavery or no slavery; if there be any qualification to that remark, it has arisen here, from what seems to be an indisposition to define the boundaries of New Mexico; that is all the danger there is. All that is part of Texas was by the resolutions of 1845 thrown under the general character of Texas territory; and if, for want of defining the boundaries of New Mexico by any proceeding or process hereafter, let me say to gentlemen, that if any portion which they or I do not believe to be Texas should be considered to become Texas, then, so far, that qualification of my remark is applicable. And therefore, I do feel, as I had occasion to say two or three days ago, that it is of the utmost importance to pass this bill to the end that there may be a definite boundary, fixed now, and fixed forever, between the territory of New Mexico and Texas, or the limits of New Mexico and the limits of Texas. Here the question lies. If gentlemen wish to act efficiently for their own purposes, here it is, in my poor judgment, that they are called upon to act. And the thing to be done, and done at once, is to fix the boundaries of New Mexico.

Mr. President, when I see gentlemen from my own part of the country, no doubt from motives of the highest character, and for most conscientious purposes, not conceding in any of these great questions with myself, I am aware that I am taking on myself an uncommon degree of responsibility. The fact that gentlemen with whom I have been accustomed to act in the Senate took a different view of their own duties in the same case, so naturally led me to reconsider my own course, to re-examine my own opinions, to re-judge my own judgment. And now, sir, that I have gone through this process, without prejudice, as I hope—and certainly I have done so under the greatest feeling of regret, at being called upon by a sense of duty to take a course which may disatisfy some to whom I should always be desirous of rendering my public course and every event and action of my public life acceptable—yet I cannot part from my own settled opinions. I leave consequences to themselves. It is a great emergency, a great exigency that this country is placed in. I shall endeavor to preserve a proper regard to my own consistency. And here let me say that neither here nor elsewhere has anything been advanced to show that on this subject I have said or done any thing inconsistent, in the slightest degree, with any speech, or sentiment, or letter or declaration that I ever delivered in my life; and all would be convinced of this if men would stop to consider, and look at real differences and distinctions. But where all is general denunciation, where all is clamor; where all is idle and empty declamation, where there is no search after exact truth, no honest disposition to inquire whether one opinion is different from the other, why, every body, in that way of proceeding, may be proclaimed to be inconsistent.

Now, sir, I do not take the trouble to answer things of this sort that appear in the public press. I know it would be useless. Those who are of an unfriendly disposition would not publish my explanations or distinctions, if I were to make them. But, sir, if any gentleman here has any thing to say on this subject—though I throw out no challenge—yet, if any gentleman here chooses to undertake the task—and many there possibly are, who think it an easy task—to show in what respect any thing that I said in debate here on the 7th of March, or any thing contained in my letter to the gentlemen of Newburyport, or any where else, is inconsistent with any recorded opinion of mine, since the subject of the annexation of Texas began in 1837, I will certainly answer him with great respect and courtesy, and shall be content to stand or fall by the judgment of the country.

Sir, my object is peace. My object is reconciliation. My purpose is, not to make up a case for the South. My object is not to continue useless and irritating controversies. I am against local ideas, North and South, and against all narrow and local contests. I am an American, and I know no locality in America that is not my country. My heart, my sentiments, my judgment, demand of me that I shall pursue such a course as shall promote the good, and harmony, and the Union of the whole country. This I shall do, God willing, to the end of the chapter.

The honorable Senator resumed his seat amidst general applause from the gallery.

From the Raleigh Star.

North Carolina University.

We learn that there was a very large concourse of persons in attendance, and that every thing passed off in a remarkably pleasant manner. On Tuesday evening the declaimers selected from the Freshman Class, acquitted themselves with credit. On Wednesday morning Hon. Jas. C. Dobbin, of Fayetteville, delivered a capital address before the two Literary Societies, which was regarded as a most rich and beautiful production. On the evening of the same day, Dr. Thomas H. Wright of Wilmington, made an eloquent and feeling address to the Alumni Association, after which the representatives from the Sophomore Class declaimed.

The Valedictory Sermon, delivered by the Rev. Dr. Hooper, was regarded by all who heard it, as a most highly finished and excellent discourse.

The following was the order of Exercises for the Commencement Day:

FORENOON.

Sacred Music, by the Salem Band.

PRAYER.

1. Oration—Latin Salutatory. Richard Hines, Jr. Raleigh.
2. Oration—"Quo Difficilis Hoc Pamelarius." Washington C. Kerr, Greensborough.
3. Oration—"Influence of Religion on Law." John Manning, Jr., Norfolk, Va.
4. Oration—"Infidelity." Benjamin R. Huske, Fayetteville.
5. Oration—"Vincit Utilitas." Edward C. Chambers, Montgomery co.
6. Oration—"The Co-operation of Christianity and Philosophy towards the Civilization of Mankind." William H. Johnston, Tarborough.

AFTERNOON.

1. Oration—"Dissemination of Poland."—Richard H. Whitfield, Danopolis, Ala.
2. Oration—"Honor to the Distinguished Dead—its influence upon the character of a Nation."—Julius A. Caldwell, Salisbury.
3. Oration—"The early History of North Carolina." Lawrence Smith, Scotland Neck.
4. Oration—"Revolution and Reform of the XIX Century." Thomas Settle, Jr., Rockingham co.
5. Oration—"Reformation of the XVI Century." Henry Hardie, Raleigh.
6. The reading of the Annual Report.
7. The Conferring of Degrees.
8. Oration—"The Valedictory." Jas. Hill, Wilmington.
9. Sacred Music.
10. Benediction.

The following young gentlemen received the degree of A. B.

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| Joel Clifton Blake,
J. F. Cain,
Julius A. Caldwell,
A. Holt Carrigan,
E. Coke Chambers,
J. La Fayette Correll,
Robert A. Hairston,
Henry Hardie,
Madison Hawkins,
John Hill,
Richard Hines, Jr.,
Benjamin R. Huske, | Washington C. Kerr,
John Manning, Jr.,
James R. Mendenhall,
Robert H. Sandford,
Thomas Settle, Jr.,
Joseph G. Smith,
Robert L. Smith,
Samuel Irwin Whitfield,
Richard H. Whitfield,
W. Whyte,
Wm. H. Johnston, |
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A correspondent of the Register says,—

The speeches of Mr. Kerr, Mr. Huske, and Mr. Johnston, bore off the palm—I was especially pleased with that of the former. It appeared more purely original than any other I heard. If I mist ke not, Mr. Kerr's delivery has been modelled upon that of the Rev. Mr. Drums. There is considerable resemblance between the two gentlemen.—Mr. Huske's speech was perhaps the most gracefully delivered; it evidently excited much attention in the audience. Mr. Johnston's was an effort after my own heart, metaphysical, acute, judicious; of that class of thought which we call the Philosophy of History. I was glad to see a young gentleman of whom such high hopes are entertained employing himself in investigations so rare, profound and instructive. The Valedictory by Mr. Hill was best complimented by the uncontrollable emotions of his classmates and the sympathy of the audience.

From the College Report, I learned that the First Distinction in the Senior Class was shared by Messrs. Hill, Johnston and Kerr; the Second by Messrs. Caldwell, Chambers, Hines, Huske, Manning and Smith; the Third by Messrs. Hardie, R. H. Whitfield and Settle. Mr. Hines was absent from no College duty during the four years, including nearly 5000 attendances. Mr. Johnston was absent but twice from Prayers and once from Recitation.

In the Sophomore Class, the First Distinction was assigned to Mr. Moore; the Second to Messrs. Gilliam, Siler and J. J. Slade;—and also, in lower degree, to Messrs. Brett, Newby and A. R. Smith. Mr. J. J. Slade has not been absent during the two years of his career.

In the Freshman Class, the First Distinction was assigned to Messrs. Hall, Law, once, J. L. Morehead, Powell, J. M. Spencer and White; the Second to Messrs. Battle, Chambers, Pool, Seales, Torrence and Whitfield. Messrs. Bullock, Ferbee, Lawrence, J. L. Morehead, Pool, Robinson, J. M. Spencer and White field, have not been absent during the year.

The Degree of Master of Arts was conferred in regular course upon the following Alumni: Messrs. J. S. Amis, W. W. Avery, C. C. Battle, W. S. Bryan, Geo. Hairston, Wm. Hill, E. C. Hines, D. S. Johnston, J. J. Kindred, R. S. Mason, J. D. Myrick, R. W. Winborne, Doctors P. A. Holt, T. N. Mcbane, J. W. Tucker and J. T. Watson, Gen. E. J. Maller, the Rev. T. F. Davis, and the Hon. J. C. Dobbin; and also upon the Rev. J. B. Donnelly. The Degree of Bachelor of Laws was conferred upon Joseph J. Davis, Esq., of Franklin county. LL.D's, none; D.D's, none.

The Caldwell Monument Fund was increased from \$650 to \$793, by subscriptions during the week.

From the Raleigh Register.

THE NASHVILLE CONVENTION—

SPEAK OUT!

Why is it that the resolutions adopted by the late Loco Foco Convention are silent upon the subject of the Nashville Convention? So far as the suicidal project was agitated in North Carolina, it was almost exclusively by the Loco Foco party. The Presses of the party in the State all advocated the movement. The chief organ of the party had the audacity to demand of our patriotic Governor, that he should convene the Legislature, at heavy expense to the Treasury, in order to secure a representation for the State in the Convention—limiting his only ten day's consideration of the matter, under penalty, in the event of refusal, of his being overwhelmed by a storm of popular indignation. A Delegate to Nashville presided over their late Convention, and the "Iron" who organized on the occasion, to the unbounded gratification of the hundred "un-terrified" who were present, and to their own unmistakable satisfaction, were advocates of the project. Why, then, was the Convention silent? Had these gentlemen watched the strong popular current that was setting against this attempt to drag North Carolina into the scheme? Was this omission a stroke of policy? Was the Convention afraid to meet the issue? We incline to that opinion. We incline to the opinion, that these scoundrels knew too well the state of public feeling in the State—realized too sensibly the honest devotion of our people for the Union of the States, to dare to meet them on a question, which they have already discountenanced and repudiated!

But the Convention did virtually endorse and sanction the Nashville Convention, by adopting the suggestion of that body, and making the Missouri Compromise line their ultimatum. We hope, therefore, that Gov. Martin will charge it upon their nominees from the hustings, and that the Whig Press in the State will "ring the changes upon it," that David S. Reid, receiving his nomination at such hands, and under such circumstances, is the Nashville Convention Candidate—that David S. Reid, who contributed, by his vote on the Oregon Bill, to bring on the disastrous issues of the day, and who is, in part, responsible for the crisis in which the Union is involved, is now a disciple of those, who originated the Southern Convention project, with a view to the formation of a Southern Confederacy! We call upon the people to mark this. David S. Reid has many a political plague spot upon his name, but by this one, shall he be known and condemned longest!

Nashville Convention at the South and Abolition excitement at the North! How little do they effect the onward course of this great Republic! Eddies and ripples in the tide—how soon they are absorbed in the mighty current which, knowing "no retiring ebb," still keeps due on, enlarging as it goes, "strong without rage, without overflowing full," and bearing upon its bosom a destiny in comparison with which the fortunes of Caesar are no more than the theme of a nursery tale!

With whatever freedom or flippancy men in any part of the Union, politicians, enthusiasts, fanatics, or others, may indulge in talk concerning the unity of this Republic and the facility with which it may be disintegrated, they would be very apt, if they should embody their ideas and purposes of dissolution in an overt act, to find themselves confronted by one of the sternest and most terrific realities that ever frowned upon treason. In the mean time the talk does little harm.—Baltimore American.

HANDLING MOLTEN LEAD AND IRON.

The Boston Traveller says experiments similar to those recently made in France, by which molten lead and iron are handled with entire impunity, the hands and arms being boldly immersed in the boiling liquids, have been tried with equal success at the scientific school, Cambridge. A fortuitous circumstance discovered that the apparently wonderful results were nothing but the simple effect of what is called the spheroidal condition of water or moisture. The theory of the thing is, that when the metal has attained a high degree of heat, it changes the spheroidal forms, which prevent the immediate contact of the iron with the skin. The experiments are to be repeated before the Natural History Society of Boston soon. If so, they will be duly reported.

PETRIFICATIONS.

About sixty miles above Georgetown, Williamson county, Texas, there is a valley of petrifications probably unequalled on the globe. Not only prostrate trees are petrified into the finest flint, but leaves of trees, flowers of plants and often the whole plant bearing fruit is petrified. A large tarantula was found as natural as life, sitting on a rock completely and in every part turned to stone. An enormous Indian arrow head has also been found. The petrifications and the floral beauties there hardened into rock, would astonish and delight the naturalist.

An Irish laborer, in the employ of the city of St. Louis, presented a bill to the corporation a few days since, for thirty-nine and three quarter day's work, performed during the month of May.

The celebration of the battle of Bunker Hill on the 17th ult. at Boston, was an imposing affair. Edward Everett, Esq., delivered the oration.